

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY:VF

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

S/S:RKKUCHEL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 085417

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR

SUBJECT: APRIL 8 VERSION OF US-GREEK DRAFT EXCHANGE OF  
LETTERS

REF: STATE 84183

1. EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN INFORMED GREEK AMBASSADOR  
ALEXANDRAKIS APRIL 8 THAT US COULD ACCEPT TEXT OF DRAFT  
LETTER FROM GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS TO THE SECRETARY  
CONTAINED IN PARA 2 OF REFTTEL.

2. HARTMAN PROVIDED ALEXANDRAKIS WITH US SUGGESTED RE-  
VISIONS OF PROPOSED US REPLY TO BITSIOS. TEXT MADE MAJOR  
REVISIONS IN PARAGRAPH ON CYPRUS AND AS WELL AS THREE  
SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES IN PARAGRAPH ON AEGEAN. TEXT OF US  
SUGGESTED REDRAFT READS:

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3. BEGIN TEXT SECRETARY'S REPLY TO BITSIOS: DEAR MR.

MINISTER: THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF APRIL . . . IN WHICH YOU REFERRED TO THE RECENTLY SIGNED UNITED STATES-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND POSED SOME QUESTIONS REGARDING THAT AGREEMENT AND UNITED STATES POLICY IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. I WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE OUR POSITION CLEAR WITH REGARD TO

THESE ISSUES.

YOU HAVE ASKED ABOUT OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND PARTICULARLY IN THE AEGEAN AREA. IN THIS REGARD I SHOULD LIKE TO REITERATE OUR CONVICTION THAT THESE DISPUTES MUST BE SETTLED THROUGH PEACEFUL PROCEDURES AND THAT EACH SIDE SHOULD AVOID PROVOCATIVE ACTIONS. WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY STATED OUR BELIEF THAT NEITHER SIDE SHOULD SEEK A MILITARY SOLUTION TO THESE DISPUTES. THIS REMAINS UNITED STATES POLICY. THEREFORE THE UNITED STATES WOULD STRONGLY OPPOSE EITHER SIDE'S SEEKING A MILITARY SOLUTION AND WILL MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO PREVENT SUCH A COURSE OF ACTION.

WITH REGARD TO CYPRUS, I SHOULD LIKE TO RE-EMPHASIZE THAT THE UNITED STATES REMAINS FULLY COMMITTED TO THE OBJECTIVE OF AN EARLY AND JUST SETTLEMENT OF THIS ISSUE. AS I SAID IN MY UNITED NATIONS ADDRESS, A SETTLEMENT MUST PRESERVE THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS. AMONG OTHER CONSIDERATIONS I CITED, A SETTLEMENT MUST INSURE THAT BOTH THE GREEK-CYPRIOT AND THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES CAN LIVE IN FREEDOM AND HAVE A LARGE VOICE IN THEIR OWN AFFAIRS, THE PRESENT DIVIDING LINES CANNOT BE PERMANENT; AND THERE MUST BE AGREED TERRITORIAL ARRANGEMENTS WHICH REFLECT THE ECONOMIC REQUIREMENTS OF THE GREEK-CYPRIOT COMMUNITY AND TAKE ACCOUNT OF ITS SELF-RESPECT. IN THE LIGHT OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS AND ON THE BASIS OF OUR CLOSE RELATIONS WITH GREECE AND TURKEY AND THE TWO COMMUNITIES IN CYPRUS, WE INTEND TO CONTRIBUTE ACTIVELY TO THE SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM AND ARE READY TO WORK WITH THE PARTIES TOWARD THIS END.

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WITH REGARD TO THE DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GREECE AND THE UNITED STATES, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF YOU COULD COME TO WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE IN DETAIL. I WOULD WELCOME AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH YOU OTHER SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AS WELL. AT THAT TIME WE COULD AGREE ON THE FRAMEWORK OF A NEW DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND GREECE THAT WOULD BENEFIT BOTH OF OUR COUNTRIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE

MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE EASTERN MEDITER-  
RANEAN. END TEXT. SISCO

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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